

# Big Bend

## Ranger Programs

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Big Bend National Park  
Rio Grande Wild & Scenic River



### September 17 – September 30, 2017

#### **Sunday, September 17**

**9:30 AM Program – “The Desert: It Wants to Kill You”** Big Bend can be a dangerous place to visit, but don’t let that scare you from exploring the park and having fun. Join Ranger A. Marini to learn about the dangers of the desert and what you can do to stay safe and keep the park wild. Meet at the patio outside the Chisos Mountains Lodge. Wheelchair accessible. 1 hour.

**8:30 PM Evening Program – “Find Your Park in Big Bend”** As one of 59 national parks and 413 national park units, Big Bend National Park offers spectacular opportunities for recreation, education, and discovery. Join Ranger M. Lavender to explore the uniqueness of Big Bend and “Find Your Park!” Meet at the Chisos Basin Amphitheater. Wheelchair accessible. Bring a flashlight. 45 minutes.

#### **Tuesday, September 19**

**9:30 AM Guided Walk – “Changing Landscapes, Changing People”** As one looks across the vistas of Big Bend, both physical horizons and cultural horizons meet. Are the views we see today the same as they were 100 years ago, or 10,000 years ago? Join Ranger B. Frohbieter for a discussion of Big Bend’s changing climates, changing inhabitants, and a window into the vistas of the past. Meet at the Chisos Basin Trailhead. Wheelchair accessible. 1/3 mile. 45 minutes.

#### **Thursday, September 21**

**8:30 PM Evening Program – “Conserving the Greater Big Bend Ecosystem”** Nearly seventy-five years after its establishment as the first national park in Texas, Big Bend is now one of eight contiguous parks and preserves comprising over three million acres of protected land. Join Ranger B. Frohbieter for a brief introduction to the Greater Big Bend Ecosystem. Meet at the Chisos Basin Amphitheater. Wheelchair accessible. Bring a flashlight. 1 hour.

#### **Friday, September 22**

**8:30 PM Evening Program – “Some Endangered Evening”** Is it dark where you live? Can you see as many stars as you once could? A dark night sky is an important factor in the lives of living creatures planet-wide, a way for humans to connect to days past, when artificial light was non-existent. Join Ranger B. Smith for an evening about evenings. A telescope will be set up to view a celestial object. Meet at the Chisos Basin Amphitheater. Bring a flashlight. Wheelchair accessible. 1 hour.

#### **Saturday, September 23**

**9:30 AM Guided Walk – “Life at the Windmill”** The desert may seem to be an impossible place to live but a significant number of living things thrive in this extreme environment. Join Ranger B. Smith for an hour of discovery and exploration into the secret, and not so secret, stories of life at the windmill. Meet at Dugout Wells, six miles south of Panther Junction Visitor Center. Bring water and a hat. ¼ mile. 1 hour.

**8:30 PM Evening Program – “Big Bend Through The Seasons”** Big Bend is a place of dynamic changes, from winter snow and ice to the searing summer heat. Join Ranger J. Jurado to experience Big Bend through the seasons: see when the wildflowers bloom, what to expect in the fall, when our busiest times are, and decide which season you might choose for your next Big Bend visit. Meet at the Chisos Basin Amphitheater. Wheelchair accessible. Bring a flashlight. 1 hour.

#### **Friday, September 29**

**8:30 PM Evening Program – “Some Endangered Evening”** Is it dark where you live? Can you see as many stars as you once could? A dark night sky is an important factor in the lives of living creatures planet-wide, a way for humans to connect to days past, when artificial light was non-existent. Join Ranger B. Smith for an evening about evenings. A telescope will be set up to view a celestial object. Meet at the Chisos Basin Amphitheater. Bring a flashlight. Wheelchair accessible. 1 hour.

#### **Saturday, September 30 - National Public Lands Day**

**8:30 AM Volunteer Service Project – “Trail Marker Removal”** Interested in helping your National Park with a project? You can help Big Bend National Park staff remove interpretive trail markers along Panther Path and Lost Mine Trail. Tools, work shirts, and gloves will be provided. Volunteers will meet park staff in the front of the Panther Junction Visitor Center. Volunteers should wear work clothing and close-toed shoes, be prepared for outdoor conditions, and bring a refillable water bottle and snacks. A pizza lunch will be provided at 12 pm.

**7:15 PM Photography Program – “You’re Not Ansel Adams, But You Could Be...”** Photography in National Parks can be a rewarding experience, a lasting memory, or just a way to document a place in time. Simple techniques will help you get the most out of your camera, be it digital or film. Regardless of format, the pretty view you’re attempting to capture may not be what you think it is... Join Ranger B. Smith for a photographic and resource discussion. Meet at the pull-out at mile 15.3 on the road to Rio Grande Village. Bring a camera, tripod, and a chair if you have them. 1 hour.